

Dear Editor,

We have addressed the final corrections, except the suggestion for Figure A1. This is because observations cannot be plotted together with model output in the same axes. They fall outside the graph. That is why we have added them in the caption, as reference.

In addition, we have corrected a sentence in line 180 as it was misleading and it is now better described in the accompanying document about the river forcing:

old text: "by recommendation of the E-HYPE developers, due to an overestimation in the precipitation in this E-HYPE run, especially over the Baltic Sea"

new text: "based on the best results for salinity in surface waters from a sensitivity analysis performed with NEMO-SCOBI."

We have also updated the reference for the accompanying document, which will be public as soon as we have the new DOI and final references of the manuscript.

Thank you and best regards,

Itzel Ruvalcaba Baroni